

REMARKS

Pursuant to a telephonic interview conducted between the undersigned the Examiner on January 30, 2008, certain independent claims have been amended. The Examiner indicated that independent claims 13 and 19 would be allowable if the plural sense of “messages” were changed to the singular sense “message.” Applicant has also amended the plural sense of “headers” and “cookies” to “header” and “cookie,” respectively, to correspond to the change from the plural sense “messages” to the singular sense “message.” Also, Applicant has replaced the phrase “the regular-expression pattern matching circuit is implemented by a technique consisting of hardware, software, and a combination thereof” with “the regular-expression pattern matching circuit is implemented by a technique **selected from the group** consisting of hardware, software, and a combination thereof,” to address a formality issue. This clause was intended to be a Markush group type claim. Without this amendment, this clause does not make grammatical sense.

In view of the amendments of claims 13 and 19, the claims are now in condition for allowance.

Independent claims 7 and 20 have been amended to correspond to the subject matter of claims 13 and 19.

Claims 1-6, 8-12, 14-18, and 21-25 have been cancelled, without prejudice, to render the rejection of those claims moot.

Entry of this Amendment after final is proper since the amendments to the claims have been made to place them in condition for allowance, as suggested by the Examiner.

Should the Examiner have any concerns or questions regarding these amendments, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner call the undersigned to further discuss the claims.

Allowance of all claims is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees and/or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-2025 (10003530-1).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _____

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